

I am vehemently against any action by the FCC to support the position of the NAB in unfairly protecting its interests. Terrestrial radio (AM and FM) are now faced with what is proving to be a very competitive and disruptive technology in SDARS. The FCC's mission in this situation should be clear...do nothing. The spirit of 'laissez-faire' on which American capitalism is based demands that regulatory agencies not act to protect business interests which essentially amount to a monopoly. This is precisely what the NAB is asking the FCC to do. The situation is no different than the television broadcasting industry, in which nationally broadcast stations offer locally oriented content that local broadcasters also offer. In the end, the marketplace and the people decide which to watch. The ridiculous agreement that SDARS broadcasters were forced to sign regarding the local broadcasting of localized content isn't even being violated in this case; the same content is broadcast nationwide for all to choose to listen to.

Considering that SDARS broadcasts are for-pay services, they should not be governed by the NAB through the FCC. For-pay services are afforded rights and privileges not available to free public broadcasters in all media, and this case should be no different. I strongly urge the FCC to deny the NAB petition and avoid inserting itself into a situation that should be decided in the marketplace by the people and not the government arena.